

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

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SUBJECT: SOVIET PRESS JUNE 24 ON US SOVIET RELATIONS

1. SUMMARY. SOVIET PRESS JUNE 24 REMAINS BULLISH ON USA
SOVIET BILATERAL RELATIONS AND SUMMIT PROSPECTS, WITH ONLY A
FEW LIGHT JABS AT US FOREIGN POLICY. SOLDATOV COMMENTARY
IN SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA JUNE 24 IS PARTICULARLY POSITIVE. IT
VIRTUALLY OMITTS REFERENCES TO DETENTE'S OPPONENTS AND SAYS THERE
ARE POSSIBILITIES FOR PROGRESS ON ARMS LIMITATION AT SUMMIT.
END SUMMARY.

2. PRAVDA (JUNE 24) HAS SEVERAL POSITIVE PIECES ON U.S.-
SOVIET COOPERATION. IN ARTICLE ON STANFORD RESEARCH INSTITUTE
SEMINAR D.M. GVISHIANI, (DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF STATE COMMITTEE
FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY) IS QUOTED AS OPTIMISTIC ON PRO-
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SPECTS FOR SOVIET COOPERATION WITH U.S. FIRMS. GVISHIANI
ATTRIBUTES FAVORABLE OUTLOOK FOR US-SOVIET COOPERATION TO

PREVIOUS SUMMITS AND SAYS PROGRAM IS GOING" EXTREMELY WELL."
SRI'S GIBSON IS QUOTED AS SAYING WESTERN OPINION SEES OPPORTUNITIES FOR COOPERATION WITH SOVIET UNION AS "ENORMOUS" AND INTEREST OF US COMPANIES IS "VERY GREAT."

3. ON THE PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE LEVEL PRAVDA'S U.S. CORRESPONDENT STRELNIKOV GIVES SYMPATHETIC PORTRAIT OF FILM STAR CHUCK CONNORS. ARTICLE ANNOUNCES CONNORS IS PLANNING FILM (ENTITLED "DRUZHBA -- FRIENDSHIP") ABOUT SOVIET PEOPLE HE MET DURING TRIP TO USSR. SUMMIT ANGLE COMES IN WITH STRELNIKOV'S REPORT THAT CONNORS CONVERSION TO PRESENT VIEWS ON BENEFICIAL NATURE OF U.S.- SOVIET COOPERATION (HE FORMERLY WAS DISTRUSTFUL OF USSR AND BELIEVED ANTI-SOVIET FABLES) STEMS FROM EFFECT OF PREVIOUS SUMMIT AND HIS OWN MEETING WITH BREZHNEV AND TALKS WITH SOVIET PEOPLE.

4. SOLDATOV IN SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA SAYS SOVIET-AMERICAN SUMMITS HAVE PRODUCED RESULTS OF GREAT SIGNIFICANCE AND HAVE RESULTED IN "SERIOUS TURN FOR BETTER IN US-USSR RELATIONS." TO EMPHASIZE POINT HE NOTES (DRAWING ON HARTMAN CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY MAY 15) THAT OF 105 SOVIET-AMERICAN AGREEMENTS SIGNED SINCE 1933, 41 HAVE BEEN NEGOTIATED IN LAST TWO YEARS. SOLDATOV WAXES ELOQUENT IN CATALOGUING BILATERAL ACTIVITIES RESULTING FROM NEW AGREEMENTS AND MUTES USUAL REFERENCES TO OPPONENTS OF DETENTE. ONLY SIGNIFICANT DIG CONCERNS MFN PROBLEM WHICH SOLDATOV HANDLES RATHER OFF-HANDELY AS IMPEDIMENT TO DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE. UPCOMING SUMMIT IS TREATED OPTIMISTICALLY. MEETINGS WILL CONTINUE EXCHANGE OF OPINIONS ON SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS "WHICH CAN AND MUST BE IMPROVED."

5. SOLDATOV SAYS THERE CAN BE MOVEMENT ON LIMITING ARMS RACE, AND ON ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL RELATIONS, AND REPLAYS BREZHNEV OFFER OF UNDERGROUND TEST BAN. ON LIMITING STRATEGIC ARMS SOLDATOV SAYS US WILL FIND USSR AN HONEST AND ACTIVE PARTNER,, BUT IT IS IMPORTANT THAT PRINCIPLES OF EQUAL DEFENSE BE OBSERVED UNCONDITIONALLY AND EXACTLY AND EFFORTS TO OBTAIN UNILATERAL ADVANTAGE BE REJECTED. THIS IS IMPORTANT TO STRESS, SOLDATOV CONCLUDES, BECAUSE SOME ORGANS OF U.S. PRESS ARE TRYING TO SOW DOUBTS AIMED AT COMPLICATING ATTAINMENT OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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AN AGREEMENT.

6. ON MORE NEGATIVE SIDE PRAVDA TAKES A FEW SLAPS AT U.S. FOREIGN POLICY. ON ME PRAVDA JUXTAPOSES BRIEF ITEM REPORTING SECRETARY ASSURED ISRAELI AMBASSADOR THAT US WILL NOT SUPPLY ARMS TO EGYPT AND SYRIA WITH TASS ARTICLE ON ISRAELI BOMBING OF LEBANON. ARTICLE DRAGS US INTO PICTURE BY QUOTING LEBANESE DEPUTY TO EFFECT THAT ISRAELI BOMBING TAKING PLACE WITH CONNIVANCE OF US. PRAVDA ALSO REPORTS THAT JAPANESE CP CALLED FOR LIQUIDATION OF U.S. BASES IN JAPAN AND THAT U.S. WILL SOON

RESUME COOPERATION WITH SPAIN.STOESSEL

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